artificial recharge to ground water/promote rain water harvesting in all the Overexploited areas falling under their jurisdiction and ensure inclusion of rooftop rain water harvesting in the building bye-laws.

(ix) CGWA has notified 43 severaly Over-exploited aeas in the country for regulation of ground water development and management. The CGWA is also regulating development of ground water by new industries/projects in all Over-exploited/Critical areas. In these notified areas, installation of new ground water abstraction structures is not permitted without prior specific approval of the Authority.

(x) CGWA has also notified 65 Over-exploited areas in various States, for registration of ground water abstraction structures, which showed a very steep decline in ground water levels and required action for regulation

(xi) Under the ongoing scheme of Ground Water Surveys, Exploration and Investigation, 13 areas in the States of Andhra Pradesh. Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have been identified for implementation of artificial recharge and rain water harvesting at a total cost of Rs 12 crores during the year 2006-07

(xii) CGWA has issued directions to Group Housing Societies, Institutes. Hotels, Industries, Farm Houses, etc. in the notified areas of Delhi, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ghaziabad and other areas of NCT Delhi where ground water table is below 8 metres from ground surface, to adopt rain water harvesting system.

Increase in Irrigation potential

254. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether net sown area in the country is 132.8 million hectare and net irrigated area is 53.07 million hectare;

(b) whether about sixty per cent of the net sown area is dependent upon the vagaries of the Monsoon rains;

(c) if so. what steps are intended to be taken to improve the scenario and to increase the irrigation potential having assured water supply; and

(d) what is the future road-map-thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PARAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) According to the Land Use Statistics for 2003-04 compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture, the net sown area in the country is estimated to be 140.9 million hectare and the net irrigated area is 55.1 million hectare *i.e.* 39.1%.

(c) and (d) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the State Goevernments as per their own priority. The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) states that irrigation will receive the highest investment priority and all ongoing projects will be completed according to strict time schedule and that water management in all its aspects, both for irrigation and drinking purposes will receive urgent attention. The Government of India provides Central assistance to the State Governments for completion of on-going irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). The AIBP criteria have been relaxed and procedures simplified to cover more projects under this programme. A pilot scheme titled "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has also been approved by Government of India in January 2005.

Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal

255. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has studied the final verdict of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal delivered on 5th February, 2007 quantifying the share of each riparian State;

(b) whether the Clause VII of the Tribunal's order relating to deficit sharing during distress years calling for proportionately reduced share to each State is quantifiable and, therefore, workable; and

(c) whether it is a fact that due to scanty rainfall over the years and resultant drought conditions, the ground water resources in Karnataka stand depleted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PARAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) submitted its report and